

# Sotto Veloce



THE CHICAGO ALFA ROMEO OWNER'S CLUB NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2012

## Picnic Wrap-up

The annual picnic was about perfect - a great turnout of about 60 people and 23 Alfas. It made for a great car show under wonderful weather. The food was also great. Thanks go out to Dave Johnson for setting the event up, Barb Carroll for arranging for the Bar-B-Q, Diana Cavaliere, and all of the other volunteers.



Pics by Marco Battistoni



## Ready for Winter?

It's actually not too early to think about it - perhaps you've used your car quite a bit this summer, or maybe you've hardly used it at all. Either way, some preventative maintenance or those repairs you've put off should be addressed before you put the car away. Then, you'll be ready to go in the Spring! Call your favorite Alfa mechanic and make an appointment to take the car in before the snow falls.

Get that engine rebuild, trans repair or paint job done over the winter, and you'll be feelin' good next year!

Roberto



## BESIC MOTORSPORTS & CAROC SWAPMEET

Location - 21W167 Hill Ave. Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 630-469-5626

September 30th (Sunday) Set Up 9:00 AM, Open 10:00 and closes 3:00

Bring your parts to swap, a table and/or tarp & a chair

Food will be served Coffee, Water & Soda provided BYOB

Please RSVP by Sept 27th if you plan to attend





## Lake MI tour Mille Miglia - Lago di Michigana

September 14-15-16. Fri-Sat-Sun

Hello All, a group of us are planning a driving trip around Lake Michigan and are inviting anyone interested to join in. As the header implies, 1000 Mile Tour around Lake Michigan. Turn off the Interstate at Port Washington, WI. and parallel the lake front where ever possible.

Gather at the Northbound I-94 Tollway Oasis in Lake Forest, IL. Depart to points North by no later than 8:00 am.

Day 1, Friday, September 14, Chicago ( Lake Forest Oasis ) to Escanaba, MI. 330 Miles, Hotel Friday Night

Day 2, Saturday, September 15, Escanaba to Ludington, MI. 420 Miles, Hotel Saturday Night

Day 3, Sunday, September 16, Ludington to Chicago, 250 Miles, Home Sunday Evening

Way-points of interest to be determined in route.  
Let me know if you have any questions or are interested.

Patrick Pedicini [pjjp04@yahoo.com](mailto:pjjp04@yahoo.com)

## Coming up..

**September 14-16**

**Mille Miglia- Lago di Michigana**

(see article)

**September 20th**

Club meeting at:

Spuntino's

516 Higgins Rd

Park Ridge, IL

Come out and join us for food and conversation in a casual setting!

Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month

**September 30th**

Club swap meet at Besic Motorsports ( see article)

The full calendar, a list of club officers, disclaimers, membership information, etc. can be found at

[www.caroc.com](http://www.caroc.com)

## News-

Congratulations to Mike Besic and his team on the 24 Hours of LeMons win at Road America. The car is a tribute to the original Lancia Stratos rallye car (powered by a Ferrari Dino V6) of the 70's. Conceived and constructed by Mike Besic of a Fiat Bertone X-1/9 and the drivetrain of an Alfa 164S this racer is everyones grassroots, low cost racing favorite. Painted with three cans of Rustoleum it proudly wears the Alitalia livery of the period and the name "Launcha Splatos!"

Driven by a team of vintage racers from the midwest, TEAM SPLATOS had the consistency and patience to not only finish the 14-1/2 hour race at Americas National Park of Speed, but excel.

The Splatos ruled at the 24 Hours of LeMons race at Road America! First overall, First in class. It was a Battle Royale the whole way. The car ran great. One Black Flag penalty for one of our guys going off track. It was down to the last 15 minutes of a 14-1/2 hour race. We drove our hearts out for 258 laps! George Bruggentheis, president of Road America - who we've known a long time - came over and asked how many laps were completed. He was told 258 and at 4+ miles per lap he thinks this is the first 1000 mile race ever run or won there! We may go into the track history books. Very exciting race. There were two major pros there - Emanuele Pirro, the winningest racer at LeMans with 5 wins for Audi, and Porsche Grand Am racer Ian Baas. The Splatos beat them both! Diced with Pirro for about 45 minutes and stayed ahead until our car was called in for gas and driver change. They had a Porsche 944 that the Splatos could pull out of anywhere but the 944 had big ass brakes and could go way deep in turns 5 and 8. Great weather, a lot of nice people and clever cars: an MGB, A Maxima with a whole Cadillac Northstar twin cam V8 FWD in the back seat and a very fast turbo Probe that was 4-6 seconds a lap faster than us but not as consistent, plus lots of BMW sedans and Honda CRX's. Whew - a couple of very exciting days of racing!

Rick Gurolnick, Team Captain, Driver Two of Four

<http://blog.caranddriver.com/24-hours-of-lemons-road-america-the-winners/#more-90538>